



Dr. Timothy Faber, Director of Missions

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# The Voice

Teaching and preaching on end times seems to have waned a bit in recent years, but the yearning for Christ's return is still strong. I believe it is a condition of the human heart to desire the presence of God. The human soul innately knows that there is something better than what this world has to offer. Unfortunately, those who do not know God seem to think that the Lord's coming will bring relief from the struggles of this life. In reality, when the Lord returns He will come with righteous judgment.

But the first time the Lord came was more like what many people still long for. Ancient Israel was looking for a king that would throw off the shackles of Rome and bring freedom and rest to His people. For those of us who know Christ, who already have the Spirit of God present within us, the Lord's coming is not merely a respite from this world, but a fulfillment of His promises. The Lord's coming and presence is also the pinnacle and culmination of the desires of man's heart. As such the longing for God's presence has been expressed in psalms, poetry, and every other form of expression of the soul throughout human history. In fact, one of the oldest hymns of Christmas captures this idea of desiring the presence of God.

"The text for "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" comes from a 7 verse poem that dates back to the 8th century. It was used in a call and response fashion during the vespers, or evening, service. The original text created the reverse acrostic "ero cras," which means "I shall be with you tomorrow," and is particularly appropriate for the advent season. A metrical version of five of the verses appeared in the 13th century, which was translated into English by J.M. Neale in 1851. Each of the five verses expounds upon one of the names for the Messiah: "Emmanuel" (Isaiah 7:14, Mt 1:23) means "God with us" "Adonai" (Exodus 19:16) is a name for God, the giver of the law "Branch of Jesse" (Isaiah 11:1) refers to Jesus' lineage "Oriens" (Malachi 4:2, Luke 1:78-79) is the morning star or daystar "Key of David" (Isaiah 22:22) again refers to Jesus' lineage"<sup>1</sup>

Come, oh come, God with us. Why is this such a powerful concept? Think about it. Man, sinful and wretched, deceived and deceitful, wicked and slovenly, full of arrogance and pride and contempt . . . yet loved by his Creator – his Creator who is three times Holy, pure, compassionate, gracious, merciful, yet just and true and honorable in all things. The two couldn't be more opposite, couldn't be farther apart. In fact, that is what being dead in trespass and sin means – death is a separation.

In order for there to be life the separation must be eliminated. There must be a coming together, a reconciliation, redemption.

"O come O key of David Come; And open wide our heavenly home. Make safe the way that leads on high and close the paths to misery....

Oh come desire of nations bind, In one the hearts of all mankind; Oh bid our sad divisions cease . . . and be Yourself our King of Peace!"

This is exactly what happened at Christmas! God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself! This is exactly what the Father has promised, and for which Believers still yearn, as expressed in the closing of Revelation – He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus (NASB).

1. Hymnary.org

Your Fellow Servant, Timothy

# Report from Cornerstone Baptist Church

November 20, 2018  
Cornerstone Baptist Church  
Camdenton, MO  
[www.CamdentonChurch.com](http://www.CamdentonChurch.com)

Dear Ministry Partners,

I'm late getting this report out. We hit a couple of roadblocks, one major, on our journey of renovating a storefront to move Cornerstone into. But God is faithful and had provided again and again.

We are extremely thankful for each of you that pray for us and those who financially support us as well. Let me list some of the things that God has blessed us with this last couple of months.

- We have now been in existence 5+ months.
- At the beginning of October, we made a decision to not move to the back of the probation and parole building, even though it would have been rent free to start with.
- 4 days later, with no money, we leased a building that needed to have a major overhaul.
  - The landlord let us have it for 6 weeks to renovate before he needed rent money.
- Someone stepped in and paid the electric deposit.
- Someone else and paid for a 4 by 8 ft. sign that should be put up anyway.
- We turned on the water, got a building permit and began the renovations.
- God blessed us with an electrical contractor, 3 jack of all trades and a couple of window washers.
- On Halloween night, we had a trunk of treat and soup and chili dinner at the building even though we weren't officially in it. At times, there were so many people eating soup and chili, people couldn't even get in the doors.
- Many connections were made that night with people in our target area.
- God sent us another family, took one family to winter in Texas and took one individual from us (roadblock).

We have now had services for two Sundays in the building and many lookie Lous driving by to see what's happening.

Please continue to pray for us.

- Pray for us as we begin to canvass the apartment complexes and neighborhoods.
- Pray that we would be bold in our witness.
- Pray that God would show us exactly how to reach our neighbors.
- Pray as we seek to begin men's and ladies bible studies as well as an addiction recovery program.
- Thank the Lord for my good health. No viruses or head colds so far and it has circulated through the church.
- Thank the Lord the our core has stepped up their participation in all aspects of Cornerstone ministries.

Thanks again for your participation and prayers!

Bob and Ellen Vander Berg  
Cornerstone Baptist Church

**MINISTERS & WIVES  
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

**Thursday, December 6, 2018,  
6:30 PM**

**Horseshoe Bend Baptist Church  
394 Duckhead Road, Lake Ozark**

**Mike & Kim Webery will be preparing Ribs as part of our dinner**

**All pastors and wives are free  
Other ministers (associates, retired, etc. are welcome  
at a cost of \$16.00 per person.)**

**SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

**Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association will be hosting an association-wide youth Super Bowl Party. All 7-12 grade students are invited to attend an exciting time of fellowship. The event will take place Sunday, February 3, 2019 at FBC of Eldon. We will be seeking volunteers to help chaperone and to provide drinks and food. For more information, or to make sure you stay updated with upcoming details, you can contact Zach White at 806-268-2710, or Caleb Smith at 573-239-9779.**

**Associational Meeting  
Tuesday, December 11, 6:30 PM  
Associational Office  
401 W Champaign, Eldon**

**REMEMBER OUR CHURCHES**

**Without pastors  
HONEY SPRINGS  
GREENRIDGE  
HORSESHOE BEND  
ST. ELIZABETH**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5: Youth Council Meeting, 1:30, Brews Brothers, Eldon  
December 6: Pastors Christmas Fellowship, 6:30. Horseshoe Bend Baptist Church  
December 11: Associational Council Meeting 6:30, Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association Office  
December 13: Camp Committee Meeting, 1:30 PM, Brews Brothers  
December 21-22: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open  
December 25: Christmas  
December 30: **NO FIFTH SUNDAY SING AT MT HERMAN**  
January 12: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM  
January 25-26: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open  
February 3: Associational Youth Super Bowl Party, FBC, Eldon  
February 9: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM  
February 22-23: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open  
March 9: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM  
March 10: Daylight Saving Time Begins. Spring forward 1 hour  
March 29-30: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open  
March 31: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Sing at Mt. Herman Baptist Church, 6:00 PM

**Camp Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 13, 1:30 PM**  
**Associational Office, 401 Champaign,**  
**Eldon**

**Youth Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 5, 1:30 PM**  
**Brews Brothers**

 *Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association*  
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**John Shifflet**  
**196621 Long Branch Rd**  
**Barnett, MO 65011**

**And in the fields shepherd were abiding keeping watch over their sheep.**